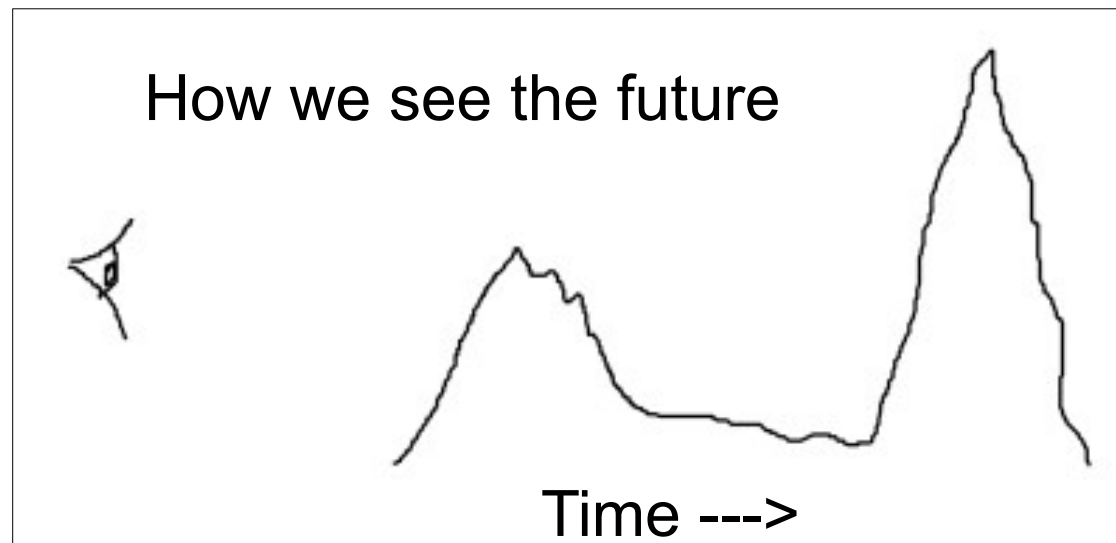


# Daniel 11:2-45

## Israel, caught in the middle

History to the end of the world



## The future told by the angelic messenger

Now then, I tell you the truth.. Three more kings will appear in Persia, and then a fourth, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece.

A brief history of the Persian empire 539 – 336 BC.

The 4<sup>th</sup> king = Xerxes I (in Esther's day)

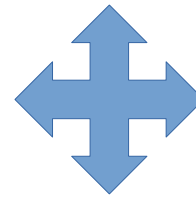
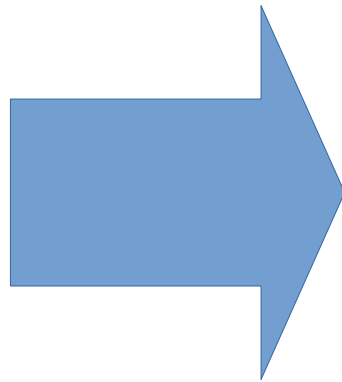
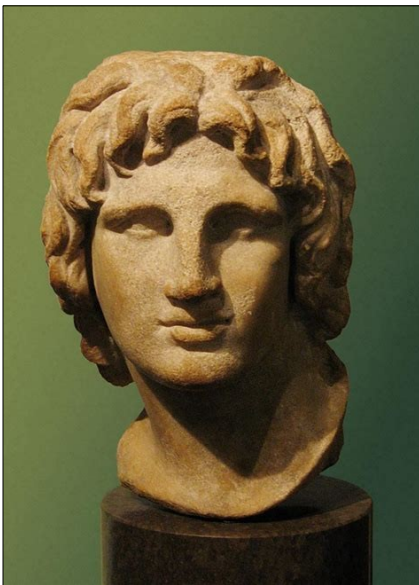
There were others but they are left out of the account



Map 4-1

Then a mighty king will appear, who will rule with great power and do as he pleases. After he has appeared, his empire will be broken up and parcelled out toward the four winds of heaven. It will not go to his descendants, nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted and given to others.

The rise and fall of Alexander the Great 336-323  
His empire eventually went to his 4 generals



The king of the South will become strong, but one of his commanders will become even stronger than he and will rule his own kingdom with great power.

The South (Egypt Ptolemies) vs. The North (Seleucids)  
And the land of Israel in-between (N and S relative to Israel)



The terms 'king of the North and South' refers to successive rulers of the Seleucid and Ptolemaic empires covering some 200 years



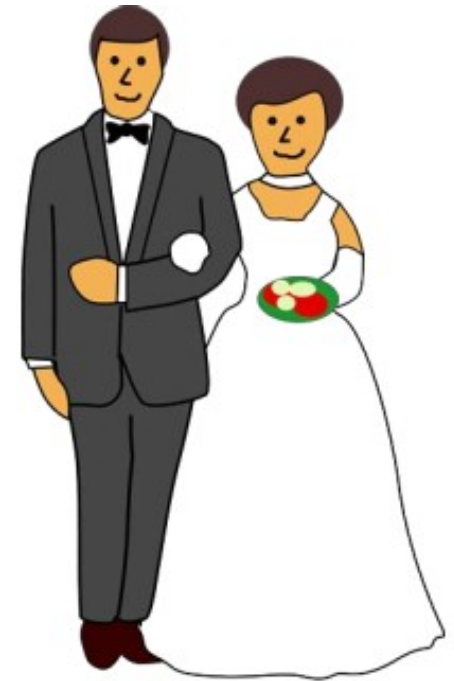
After some years, they will become allies. The daughter of the king of the South will go to the king of the North to make an alliance, but she will not retain her power, and he and his power will not last. In those days she will be handed over, together with her royal escort and her father and the one who supported her.

Very detailed prophecy (in the future tense)

An attempt at an alliance by Ptolemy II's daughter and Antiochus II  
cf. Laodice vs Berenice

God knows what will be (He is in charge)

But people are responsible for their choices and actions



One from her family line will arise to take her place. He will attack the forces of the king of the North and enter his fortress; he will fight against them and be victorious. He will also seize their gods, their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt. For some years he will leave the king of the North alone.

Revenge! by Ptolemy III for his sister's murder.  
Plunder returned to Egypt  
He was called Ptolemy Euergetes (Benefactor)



Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South but will retreat to his own country. His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood and carry the battle as far as his fortress.

Seleucus II



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Seleucus III 226 BC

Antiochus III The Great 223 BC

as far as Raphia SW of Gaza

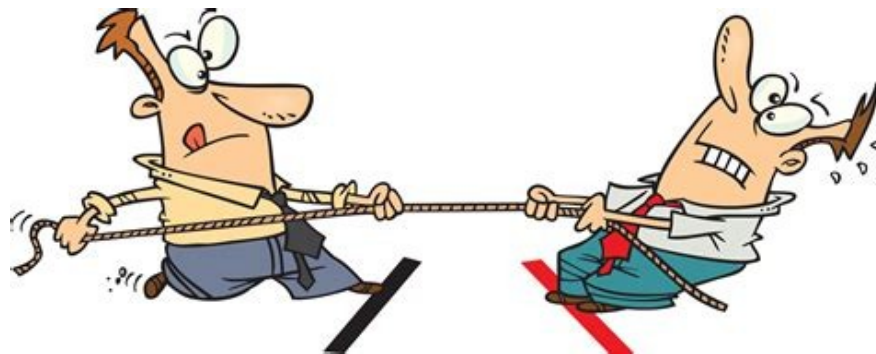
The Battle of Raphia, also known as the Battle of Gaza, was fought on 22 June 217 BC near modern Rafah.



"Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated. When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant. For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped. "In those times many will rise against the king of the South.

Ptolemy IV 221BC vs. Antiochus III The Great

Egypt now becomes weaker



The violent men among your own people will rebel in fulfilment of the vision, but without success.

A Jewish revolt was a failed attempt against taxes of Ptolemy IV  
They were severely punished by Egyptian general Scopas

They thought they were fulfilling a prophecy.

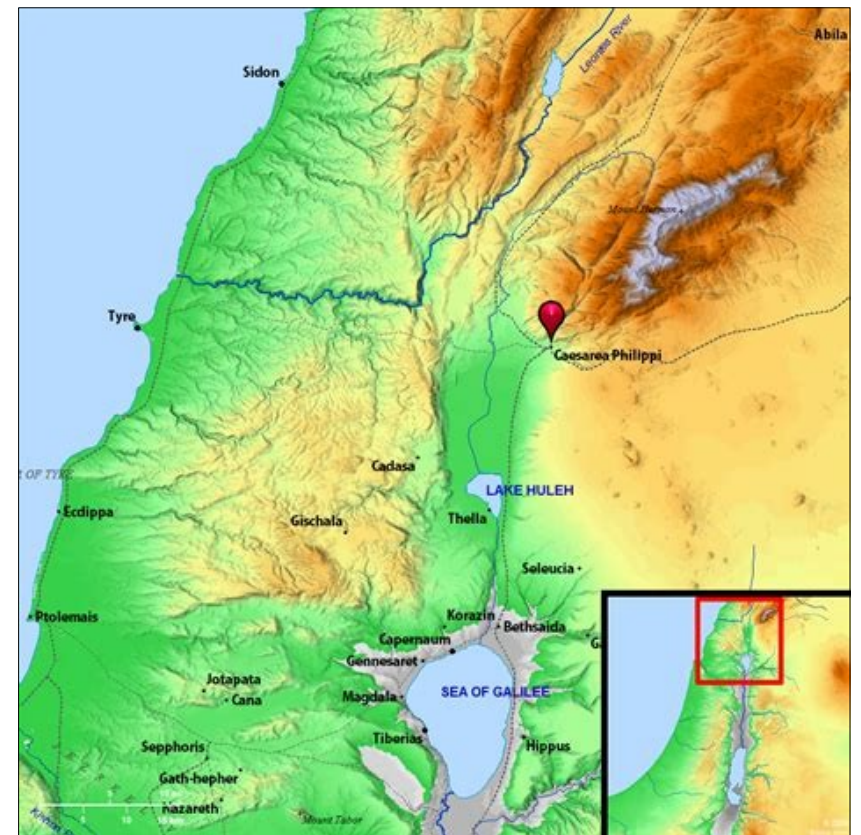


Then the king of the North will come and build up siege ramps and will capture a fortified city. The forces of the South will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand. The invader will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him. He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land and will have the power to destroy it.

Fortified city later known as  
Caesarea Philippi  
General Scopas surrendered.

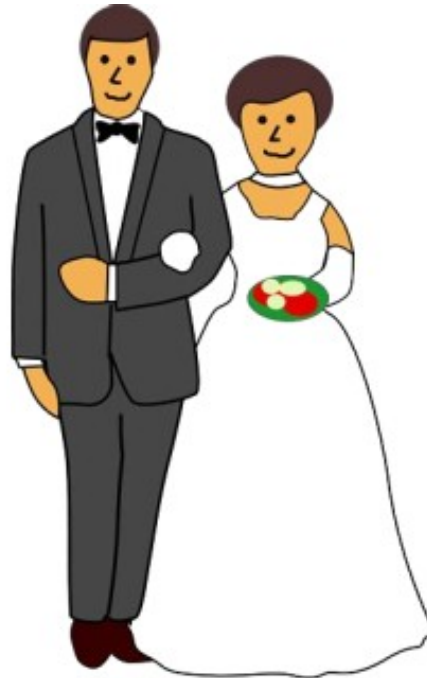
Middle ground = the Beautiful  
land (Israel) note God's term.

More trouble from Antiochus III



He will determine to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will make an alliance with the king of the South. And he will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom, but his plans will not succeed or help him.

A failed attempt with Antiochus III's daughter Cleopatra I to Ptolemy V (She sided with her husband!)



Then he will turn his attention to the coastlands and will take many of them, but a commander will put an end to his insolence and will turn his insolence back upon him. After this, he will turn back toward the fortresses of his own country but will stumble and fall, to be seen no more.

Another one gone. Defeated by Roman and Greek troupes then he later falls and dies, killed by an angry mob.



His successor will send out a tax collector to maintain the royal splendour. In a few years, however, he will be destroyed, yet not in anger or in battle.

Seleucus IV - 187 BC (more tax for tribute to Rome)

1000 talents a year

The uncertainty of life in this world.

Poisoned by his tax collector



He will be succeeded by a contemptible person who has not been given the honour of royalty. He will invade the kingdom when its people feel secure, and he will seize it through intrigue. Then an overwhelming army will be swept away before him; both it and a prince of the covenant will be destroyed.

### **The destroyer Antiochus IV 175-164**



The 'little horn' (ch.8:9) bribed his way to the throne Ptolemy VI invaded, was captured and did a deal (covenant) with Antiochus IV who set him up back in Egypt.



After coming to an agreement with him, he will act deceitfully, and with only a few people he will rise to power. When the richest provinces feel secure, he will invade them and will achieve what neither his fathers nor his forefathers did. He will distribute plunder, loot and wealth among his followers. He will plot the overthrow of fortresses--but only for a time.

Antiochus IV attacks Egypt (and Judea)  
It won't last.





With a large army he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South. The king of the South will wage war with a large and very powerful army, but he will not be able to stand because of the plots devised against him. Those who eat from the king's provisions will try to destroy him; his army will be swept away, and many will fall in battle.

Treachery by advisers to Ptolemy VI  
defeated and captured.



Choose your friends wisely.

The two kings, with their hearts bent on evil, will sit at the same table and lie to each other, but to no avail, because an end will still come at the appointed time. The king of the North will return to his own country with great wealth, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant. He will take action against it and then return to his own country.

Peace talks? Between  
Antiochus IV & Ptolemy VI  
They intend to use the other.  
On returning from Egypt he  
found an insurrection and  
killed thousands of Jews. This  
led to the Maccabean revolt.



at the appointed time = God's timing – He is in charge

At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was before. Ships of the western coastlands will oppose him, and he will lose heart.

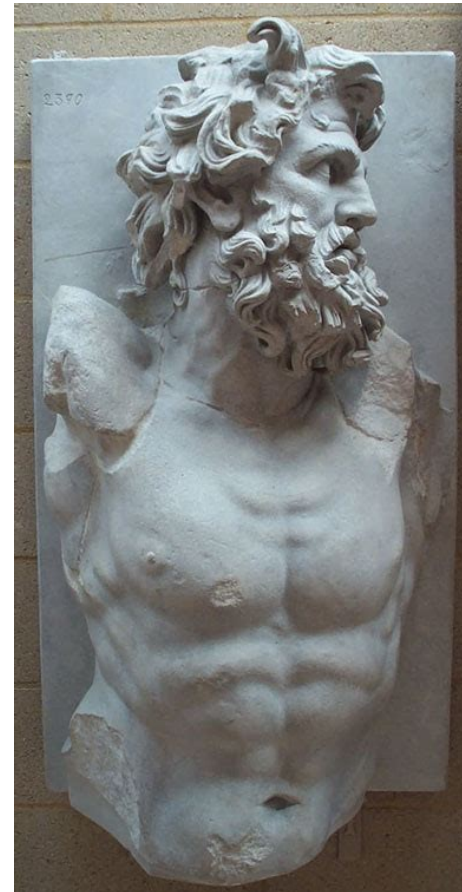
168 BC Antiochus IV invaded Egypt again but was defeated by Egypt + Romans in ships  
Here come the Romans!

Decide in the circle ...  
the commander's letter  
and ultimatum.  
“Leave Egypt or else...”



Then he will turn back and vent his fury against the holy covenant. He will return and show favour to those who forsake the holy covenant. "His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation.

Antiochus' angry revenge on others  
He pushed his Hellenisation programme with collaborators.  
In the December 167 BC suppression, he entered temple, stopped the sacrifices and set up an altar to Zeus



With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist him (stand firm and take action).

Corrupt insiders versus the Maccabean followers  
Knowing God is the important thing.



Those who are wise will instruct many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered. When they fall, they will receive a little help, and many who are not sincere will join them. Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless until the time of the end, for **it will still come at the appointed time.**

Maccabean revolt had no outside support

There were also hangers-on.

Difficult times. Many died-(refined- faithful unto death)





The following details don't fit with Antiochus IV history.  
It points to a future Antichrist? His plans vs. God's

The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for **what has been determined** must take place.



He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all. Instead of them, he will honour a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his fathers he will honour with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honour those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price.

Big ego effects  
Might is right!  
Major end time war.





At the time of the end the king of the South will engage him in battle, and the king of the North will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood. He will also invade the Beautiful Land.

Difficult rise to power.  
He starts the final battle.  
The Beautiful Land is the focus  
caught in the middle



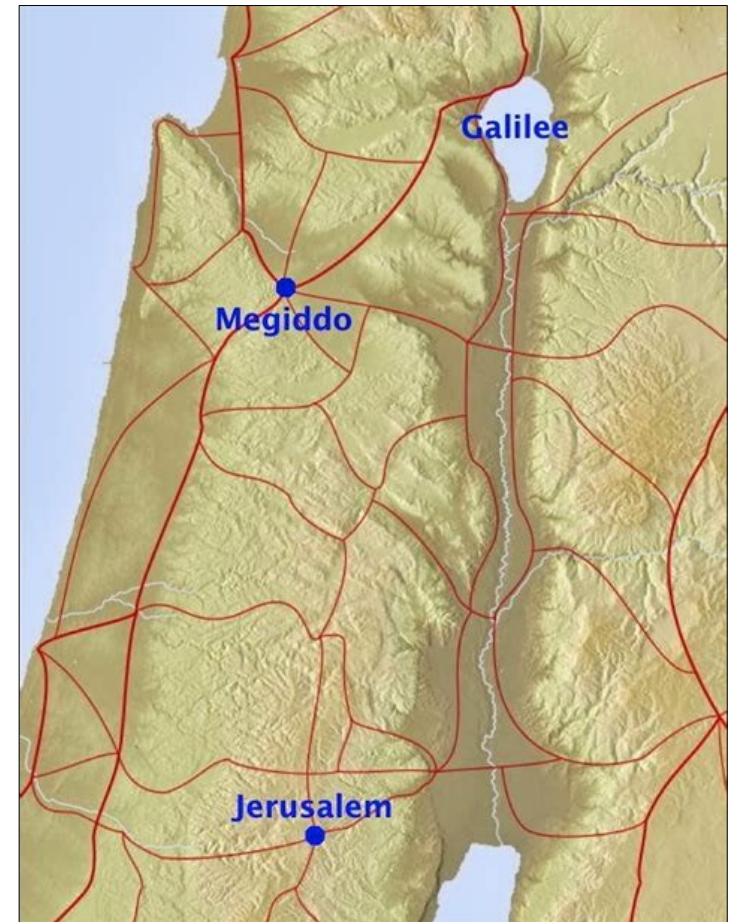
Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand. He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission.

A big kingdom but some seem to be out of the way



But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.

His rule won't last  
His Last battle site Armageddon



**The future is ultimately in God's hands.  
His people are to trust Him and remain faithful.**

*but the people who know their God will firmly resist him. v.32*

*1 Peter 1:6-7 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

*Psalm 33:11*

*The counsel of the LORD stands forever,  
the plans of his heart to all generations.*